



Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 03180.0360

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Satoshi TAKANA et al.)
) Group Art Unit: 1756
Application No.: 10/808,299)
) Examiner: TBA
Filed: March 24, 2004)
)
For: SET OF MASKS, METHOD OF)
GENERATING MASK DATA)
AND METHOD FOR FORMING)
A PATTERN)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

Following are concise statements of relevance of the non-English language documents. English language abstracts are attached.

1. Japanese Patent Laid-Open (Kokai) No. 09-232233 - This document discloses a lithography method including resist pattern slimming.
2. Japanese Patent Laid-Open (Kokai) No. 2002-009056 - This document discloses a patterning method including a hard-mask slimming process.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

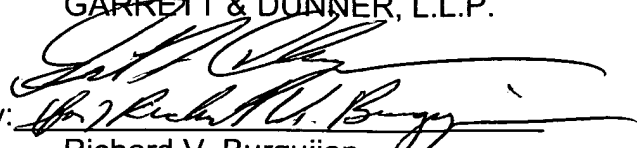
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

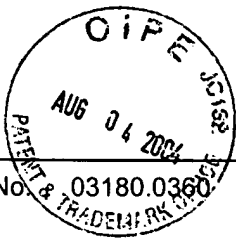
Dated: August 4, 2004

By:


Richard V. Burgujian
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Enclosures
RVB/FPD/cma

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No. 03180.0360	Application No. 10/808,299
Applicants Satoshi Tanaka et al.	
Filing Date March 25, 2004	Group: TBA

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date (Publ. Date)	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,364,716	11/15/1994	Nakagawa et al.	430	5	
	2002-0160590 A1	(10/31/2002)	Hashimoto et al.	438	528	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
JP 09-232233	09/05/1997	Japan			Abstract
JP 2002-009056	01/11/2002	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce